

Developments in Nebraska School Health Screening

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- Rules and Regulations for School Health Screening
- School Health Data Project
- Resources for schools
 - Guidelines
 - Competencies

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- Rules and Regulations – Key Points
 - Statutes apply only to public schools
 - Schedule for screening
 - Qualified personnel
 - Parent refusal
 - Children with special needs
 - Competencies and verification
 - Notification
 - Enforcement

Schedule for Screening

- PK – 4th annually
- 7th grade
- 10th grade
- Additional indications for screening
- Hearing, Vision, Dental, BMI
- Other screenings, other grades by local school policy as desired.

Qualified Personnel

- Any person can screen, if first deemed competent in the screening method by a licensed health care professional.
- An unlicensed person can also screen if under the direct supervision of a licensed health care professional.
- Licensed health care professionals may screen.
- MAY NOT SCREEN: an unlicensed person who has not been documented as competent in the screening method within the last three years and is not under direct supervision of a licensed health care professional.

Parent Refusal

- The parent must provide documentation to the school that the student has been screened by a qualified medical professional.
- If the parent provides no such documentation, the child will be screened at school.
- RECOMMENDATION: review student handbooks and important information for parents to include this information.

Children with Special Needs

- Children who cannot be screened by the usual method should not be overlooked in the screening method.
- Adapted screening methods at school can only be performed by licensed health care professionals.
- The school must show an effort to work with parent to obtain screening results by other means, likely from the child's personal health care provider with parent's assistance.

Competencies and Verification

- Competencies for screening are attached to the regulations.
- The competencies also are adapted for a verification checklist, to be signed and dated by the licensed health care professional verifying accurate and consistent screening method.
- Goals for Competency Framework: Standardize screening practice. Establish accurate and reliable measurement.
- It is the responsibility of the screener to obtain competency verification; responsibility of the school to show qualified screeners have screened.

Notification

- Parents are to be notified of results indicating need for further evaluation.
- Results of screening are NOT diagnostic or conclusive.
- Statutes do not require parent to act on screening results.
- If parent fails to act: is the child at risk for harm or injury? Are there accommodations school will make?

Enforcement

- Statutes identify the role of the local board of education in complying with state laws for screening.

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- Regulatory Roadmap
 - Public hearing scheduled Nov. 1
 - Consideration of public and stakeholder input
 - Effective date July 2014
 - Guidelines drafts available now

School Health Data Project

- Year 1: BMI
- Year 2: Dental
- Year 3: Chronic Conditions
- Year 4: BMI + physical exam and visual eval compliance
- Year 5: Dental

Guidelines

- Draft guidelines available now
- Review comments and suggestions needed
- Additional Resources:
 - School Nurse screening methodology
 - Competency assessment methodology

Right Now: Your Active Participation in Policy Development is Needed

- Review draft rules and regulations
- Provide information to school administration on impact for your school
- Make comments and recommendations via the public input process
- Prepare for planned change as indicated in your school's screening program and practices
- Differentiate nursing practice from screening.